

Energy and Environment Committee
of the
Southern California Association of Governments
June 5, 2014

Minutes

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE. A DIGITAL RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.

The Energy and Environment Committee (EEC) held its meeting at the SCAG Los Angeles Office. The meeting was called to order by the Hon. Deborah Robertson, Chair. There was a quorum.

Members Present

Hon. Lisa Bartlett, Dana Point (Vice-Chair)	TCA
Hon. Margaret Clark, Rosemead	District 32
Hon. Jordan Ehrenkranz, Canyon Lake	WRCOG
Hon. Larry Forester, Signal Hill	GCCOG
Hon. Laura Friedman, Glendale	Arroyo Verdugo Cities
Hon. Sandra Genis, Costa Mesa	OCCOG
Hon. Linda Krupa, Hemet	WRCOG
Hon. Geneva Mojado, Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	Tribal COG
Hon. Mike Munzing, Aliso Viejo	District 12
Hon. David Pollock, Moorpark	VCOG
Hon. Carmen Ramirez, Oxnard	District 45
Hon. Deborah Robertson, Rialto (Chair)	District 8
Hon. Meghan Sahli-Wells, Culver City	WCCOG
Hon. Eric Schmidt, Hesperia	SANBAG
Mr. Steve Schuyler, ExOfficio	Building Industry Association
Hon. Jack Terrazas	Imperial County
Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro	District 1
Hon. Diane Williams, Rancho Cucamonga	SANBAG
Hon. Edward Wilson, Signal Hill	Gateway Cities

Members Not Present

Hon. Denis Bertone, San Dimas	SGVCOG
Hon. Mitchell Englander, Los Angeles	District 59
Hon. Ed Graham, Chino Hills	District 10
Hon. Steve Hernandez, Coachella	CVAG
Hon. James Johnson, Long Beach	District 30
Hon. Thomas Martin, Maywood	GCCOG
Hon. Judy Mitchell, Rolling Hills Estates	District 40
Hon. Sam Pedroza, Claremont	SGVCOG
Hon. Stephen Sammarco, Redondo Beach	SBCCOG
Hon. Lupe Ramos Watson, Indio	District 66

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Hon. Deborah Robertson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. Hon. Larry Forester, Signal Hill, led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – No comments

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

It was noted that Item 6 on the agenda was inadvertently listed under the Consent Calendar. The item should have been placed under Information Items.

Presentation - Item 5 followed Item 6.

INFORMATION ITEM

1. Annual Household Costs Water, Flood Control, Storm Water & Wastewater Survey

Hon. Mary Ann Lutz, Mayor, City of Monrovia, and First Vice President of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) Governing Board, stated in November 2012 the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board adopted a new National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Municipal Separate Sanitary Storm Sewer (MS4 NPDES Permit). The permit establishes regulations related to storm water discharge and requires implementation of six (6) programs.

The potential costs and the legal implications of the new permit are high. As a result the municipalities in Los Angeles County formed the L.A. Permit Group. The group developed a unified voice as part of a collaborative negotiating process. The group's efforts were successful in providing the cities with flexible compliance alternative, and these municipalities continue to work together to develop strategies to fund and implement the permit. However, the cost of implementation still remains high and many cities continue to struggle to identify the necessary funding for compliance.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors is conducting an affordability survey of the average annual household costs of providing drinking water, sanitary sewers, storm sewers and flood control system in our communities. The U.S. Conference of Mayors will be using this information to inform members of Congress of the actual costs our cities encounter to operate and maintain the nation's utility systems. The U.S. Conference of Mayors is currently working with members of Congress on potential legislation, including guidance on the affordability of federal mandates and providing additional funding to communities.

The SGVCOG has e-mailed the survey to City Managers, Public Works Directors and City Planners in the SCAG region. Once the surveys are submitted back to the SGVCOG a matrix will be prepared of the survey responses. SGVCOG is requesting that SCAG disseminate the information on the Annual Household Costs Water Survey currently being conducted.

Hon. Laura Friedman, Arroyo Verdugo, requested that the survey also be sent to the members of the EEC.

A MOTION was made (Forester) for the EEC to recommend that the Regional Council urge every city within the SCAG region to participate in the Water Affordability Survey organized by the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

The MOTION was SECONDED (Pollock) and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

AYES: Bartlett, Clark, Ehrenkranz, Forester, Friedman, Genis, Krupa, Mojado, Munzing, Pollock, Ramirez, Robertson, Sahli-Wells, Schmidt, Terrazas, Viegas-Walker, Williams, Wilson

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

2. Natural Gas Pathways: Towards a Clean and Renewable Energy Future

George Minter, Senior Director, Policy and Environment, Southern California Gas Company briefed the EEC on the market drivers and challenges to producing low carbon and renewable gas supply. Mr. Minter also spoke of the Gas Company's proposed strategy for clean energy and clean air for California.

Mr. Minter stated that there is an interest in the utilization of natural gas for a variety of clean energy purposes. Natural gas, methane, provides opportunities to help California and the SCAG region meet long-term Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reductions. In the nearer term reductions may come from opportunities for efficiency, "near zero" technology and new uses for natural gas transportation. In the medium to longer term, new low-carbon sources of gas will need to be developed and introduced. Pipeline decarbonization can address some basic issues that would otherwise be faced by achieving GHG reduction targets through end-use electrification alone. Feasible technology pathways demonstrate possibility for pipeline decarbonization and continue use of the state's existing gas pipeline infrastructure through 2050 to balance electric generation, transmission and distribution infrastructure.

3. Public Release of Draft Conformity Analysis for 2015 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) AND Amendment No. 2 to the 2012-2035

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG Staff, stated that as required by federal and state law, SCAG staff is developing the 2015 FTIP in partnership with the county transportation commissions (CTCs) and Caltrans districts in the SCAG region. SCAG staff is also concurrently amending the 2012 RTP/SCS in response to requests from several CTCs to reflect additions or changes to transportation project scopes, costs, and/or schedule for a number of critical transportation projects in the region.

Under the federal transportation conformity regulations, the 2015 FTIP and the RTP/SCS Amendment must demonstrate transportation conformity. The 2015 FTIP must be adopted by the Regional Council in September 2014 to meet the State Transportation Improvement Program deadline. As a result, the Draft 2015 FTIP needs to be released for public review by July 2014.

At its meeting today (June 5), the Transportation Committee is considering the public release of the Draft 2015 FTIP and the RTP/SCS Amendment including the associated transportation conformity analysis for a 30-day public review and comment period by July 1, 2014. After public review, the 2015 FTIP and the RTP/SCS Amendment will be scheduled for recommended approval by the Transportation Committee and final approval by the Regional Council on September 11, 2014. On the same day, the transportation conformity determination will be presented to this committee for recommendation to the Regional Council for approval.

4. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Documentation for Draft Amendment No. 2 to the 2012-2035 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2012 RTP/SCS)

Lijin Sun, SCAG Staff, stated that as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), SCAG staff conducted a programmatic environmental assessment for the changes to the 2012-2035 RTP/SCS Project List included in the Draft Amendment No. 2 to the RTP/SCS. The RTP/SCS Amendment is to reflect additions or changes to project scopes, costs, and schedule for a number of critical transportation projects in the SCAG region.

Like the Addendum No. 1 for the associated 2012 RTP/SCS Amendment No. 1, SCAG staff has determined that the appropriate type of CEQA documentation for this Draft Amendment No. 2 is an Addendum as well. Therefore, SCAG staff is preparing the Addendum No. 2 to the 2012 RTP/SCS PEIR, in accordance with the CEQA provisions. The Draft Amendment No. 2 to the 2012 RTP/SCS will be scheduled for recommended approval by the Transportation Committee and final approval by the Regional Council on September 11, 2014. On the same day, the associated draft addendum will be presented to the EEC for recommendation to the Regional Council for approval.

6. 2014 State and Federal Legislative Priorities Update

Darin Chidsey, SCAG Staff, stated that once a year SCAG develops a list of legislative priorities and reviews them with SCAG's Legislative & Communications Membership Committee and also gets input from SCAG's colleagues in the business community and other stakeholders. The Legislative & Communications Committee then brings a recommendation to the Regional Council in January of every year. The recommendation usually contains seven (7) to ten (10) priority areas that SCAG should focus its legislative effort on the state and federal level. This year's ten items are included in today's agenda report. Mr. Chidsey briefed the EEC on a two (2) of the items that have been the most active thus far this year, Cap-and-Trade funding on the state level and the Federal Surface Transportation Authorization, MAP-21.

The Chair stated that any committee member who has an interest in particular legislation pertinent to the work of the committee, such as fracking related bills, should inform staff.

5. California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) California Communities Environmental Health Screening (CalEnviroScreen Tool Draft Version 2.0)

Ping Chang, SCAG Staff, stated that the California Communities Environmental Health Screening (CalEnviroScreen) which was developed by Cal/EPA is a screening tool to identify California communities that are disproportionately burdened by multiple sources of pollution. Pursuant to SB 535, CalEnviroScreen is expected to be used to focus a portion of the state's Cap-and-Trade auction proceeds to the most impacted communities. CalEnviroScreen Tool Version 1.0 was first released in April 2013 with a minor update, Version 1.1, in September 2013. On April 21, 2014, Cal/EPA released for public comments the Draft CalEnviroScreen Version 2.0, which included the additional indicators of drinking water quality and unemployment rate, and used census tracts instead of zip codes as the basic geographic unit. As with the previous versions, CalEnviroScreen is not intended to be a substitute for focused risk assessment for a specific area or site, nor will the results of the tool be used for California Environment Quality Act (CEQA) purposes.

Further information about the Draft CalEnviroScreen Tool 2.0 including the draft report and an interactive mapping tool can be viewed at <http://oehha.ca.gov/ej/ces2.html>. Comments on the Draft CalEnviroScreen 2.0 were due June 1, 2014. Staff plans to apprise the Community, Economic & Human Development (CEHD) Committee and EEC regarding the status of Version 2.0 in a future report.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval Item

7. Minutes of the April 3, 2014 Meeting

Receive and File

8. 2014 Regional Council and Policy Committee Meeting Schedule
9. SCAG Sustainability Planning Grants Program – Monthly Update
10. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emission Standards for Light-Duty Vehicles: Manufacturer Performance Report for the 2012 Model Year
11. U.S. and California Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reports
12. Proposed Rule Defining the Scope of Waters Protected Under the Federal Clean Water Act
13. Progress of One-on-One Meetings with Local Jurisdictions to Provide Assistance for a Bottom-up Local Input Process

A MOTION was made (Pollock) to approve the Consent Calendar with a correction noted by Hon. Margaret Clark, that she did not intend for the recording of her vote for Chair nominee Hon. Mike Munzing to be reflected in the Minutes as a “No” vote against the election of Hon. Deborah Robertson.

The MOTION was SECONDED (Forester) and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

AYES: Bartlett, Clark, Ehrenkranz, Forester, Friedman, Genis, Krupa, Mojado, Munzing, Pollock, Ramirez, Robertson, Sahli-Wells, Schmidt, Terrazas, Viegas-Walker, Williams, Wilson
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

CHAIR’S REPORT – None

STAFF REPORT - None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Hon. Deborah Robertson – Fracking versus water injection flood wells

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sarah Jepson, SCAG Staff, announced that would be holding a Water Conference on June 13, 2014, from 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. at SCAG's downtown L.A. office. The agenda will soon be posted on SCAG's website and the conference will be webcasted.

Jonathan Nadler, SCAG Staff, announced that SCAG's 25th Annual Demographic Workshop on the subject of 'Demographics of Poverty and Progress After the Recession' is being held on June 9, 2014 at 7:45, at University of Southern California's Sol Price School of Public Policy.

Hon. Larry Forester, Signal Hill, requested that the L.A. County Stormwater Funding Options Report be posted on SCAG's website.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Deborah Robertson adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

The next meeting of the Energy & Environment Committee will be held on Thursday, August 7, 2014 at the SCAG Los Angeles Office.

Action Minutes Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Nadler', written in a cursive style.

Jonathan Nadler, Manager
Compliance & Performance Monitoring

Energy and Environment Committee Attendance Report

2014																						
			X = County Represented						X = Attended Black Shading = Dark													
Member (including Ex-Officio)	Date Appointed if after 1/1/14		Imperial	Los Angeles	Orange	Riverside	San Bernardino	Ventura	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total Mtgs Attended	
LastName, FirstName		Representing																				
Bartlett, Lisa		OCCOG			X				X	X		X		X							4	
Bertone, Denis		SGVCOG		X					X	X	X	X	G								4	
Clark, Margaret		Rosemead		X					X	X	X	X	E	X							5	
Ehrenkranz, Jordan		WRCOG				X			X	X	X		N	X							4	
Englander, Mitchell		Los Angeles		X									E									
Forester, Larry		Gateway Cities		X						X	X	X	R	X							4	
Friedman, Laura		AVCOG		X					X	X	X	X	A	X							5	
Genis, Sandra		OCCOG			X				X	X	X	X	L	X							5	
Graham, Ed		Chino Hills					X					X									1	
Hernandez, Steven		CVAG					X						A									
Johnson James		Long Beach		X					X	X	X	X	S								4	
Krupa, Linda		Hemet				X					X	X	S	X							3	
Martin, Thomas		GCCOG		X					X	X	X		E								3	
Mitchell, Judy		SBCCOG		X					X	X	X	X	M								4	
Mojado, Geneva	2/1/2014	Tribal COG								X	X	X	B	X							4	
Munzing, Mike		District 12			X				X	X	X	X	L	X							5	
Pedroza, Sam		SGVCOG		X							X		Y								1	
Pollock, David		VCOG						X	X	X	X			X							4	
Ramirez, Carmen		Oxnard						X	X	X	X	X		X							5	
Robertson, Deborah		District 8					X			X	X	X		X							4	
Sahli-Wells, Meghan	6/5/2014	WCCOG		X										X							1	
Sanmarco, Stephen		SBCCOG		X					X	X											2	
Schmidt, Eric	6/5/2014	SANBAG					X							X							1	
Schuyler, Steve	2/1/2014	BIASC								X				X							2	
Shaw, Joe	6/5/2014	OCCOG			X																	
Terrazas, Jack		Imperial County	X						X	X	X	X		X							5	
Viegas Walker, Cheryl		El Centro	X						X	X	X	X		X							5	
Williams, Diane		SANBAG					X		X	X	X	X		X							5	
Wilson, Edward		Signal Hill		X					X	X	X	X		X							5	
TOTALS			2	11	4	2	5	2														